

REMARKS

Claims 2, 11 and 19 have been cancelled, and claims 1, 3-8, 12-18 and 20-24 have been amended. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the original claims and other claims in this application and other applications. Claims 1, 3-10, 12-18 and 20-26 are pending.

Claims 1, 9, 10, 18, 25 and 26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being upatentable over Salomon (US 5,467,709) in view of Broschart (US 5,730,049). Claims 2-8, 11-17 and 19-24 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 1, 10 and 18 have been amended to include all of the limitations of claims 2, 11, and 19, respectively. As indicated by the Office Action, claims 1, 10 and 18 should now be allowable. Claims 3-9, 12-17 and 20-26, dependent upon claims 1, 10 or 18, are allowable along with those claims and on their own merits.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the claims of this case are in a condition for allowance and favorable action thereon is requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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